THE CHARACTERS OR POURTRAICTS OF The Present COURT OF FRANCE:

Wherein is described
The KING, the Princes,
the Generals, and the principal Ministers of State,
&c.

Written Originally in French.
Made English by *J. B.* Gent.

LONDON:
Printed by *J. C.* for *Thomas Palmer*, at the Crown in *Westminster-hall.* 1668.

TO THE Reader.

THe French Nation being at preſent the moſt conſiderable Actors upon the great Theatre of the World, their Vaſt Deſignes and Notable Progreſs having made them become the chief Subjects of moſt mens daily Diſcourſe; I thought it not amiſs, until a more perfect Relation comes to our hands, to give a ſhort the Names and Characters of the principal Perſons, drawn by a Country-man of their own, and faithfully copied in this Rough-draught, where you will finde a brief account of that King, thoſe

To the Reader.

Princes, Generals and States-men who are now ſo active and eager in the purſuit of Conqueſt. If this be received with any kindneſs, I may perhaps draw aſide the curtain, ſhew the Scenes, and accurately deſcribe the precedent and following Campagnes, with all the Contrivances, Turns, Counterturns, and Windings up of every Act as they ſhall ſucceed; which how it will conclude, is the enquiry, concern, and expectation of all Europe, *amongſt whom our Intereſt is not ſo little, but we ought to inform our ſelves of all the Particulars: to which if this contribute in the leaſt, I have my Ends.*

Farewel.

A Catalogue of books lately Printed, and are to be ſold by *Thomas Palmer*, at the ſigne of the Crown in *Weſtminſter-hall*. 1668.

1. THe Characters and Pourtraicts of the preſent Court of *France*: deſcribing the King, Princes, Miniſters of State, and others, in 8.

2. *Rome exactly deſcribed*: or, a Relation of the ſtate of the Court of *Rome*, made at the late Council of *Pregadi*, in two curious Diſcourſes: by the moſt Excellent, the Lord *Angelo Correro*, Ambaſſadour from the moſt Serene Republique of *Venice* to Pope *Alexander* 7. Tranſlated out of Italian by *John Bulteel* Gent. in large 8.

3. *Spare minutes*: or, Reſolved Meditations, and Premeditated Reſolutions, by *Arthur Warwick*, in 24.

4. The Eſſays and Counſels, Civil and

and Moral: whereunto is newly added A Fable of the Colours of Good and Evil: by the Right Honourable Sir *Fr. Bacon*, Lord *Verulam*, Viſcount *S. Alban*, in large 12.

5. *Flagellum*, or the Life and death of *O. Cromwel*, from his Birth to his Burial. With an exact Account of his Policies and Succeſſes: with a Diſcovery of his private and publike actions, not till now made publike. Impartially written by *James Heath* Gent. in large 8.

6. *The Engliſh Rogue deſcribed*, in the Life of *Meriton Latroon* a Witty Extravagant: being a Compleat Diſcovery of the moſt eminent Cheats of both Sexes: in large 8.

7. *Cupids Courtſhip*: or, the Celebration of a Marriage between the Godd of Love and *Pſyche*, in a Poem, by the ſame ingenious Author, in 8.

8. *Venus Cabinet unlocked*, and Natures chief Miracles and Rarities laid open: being a Curious Collection out of the two eminent Phyſicians, *Levinus Lemnius*, and *Sinibaldus*, and others: made Engliſh by *Rob. Miller* M.D. in 12.

9. *The compleat Sollicitor*: performing

ing his duty, and teaching his Client to run through his own Business, as well in his Majesties superior Courts at *Westminster*, as in the Mayors Court, Court of Hustings, Court of Marshalsey, and other inferiour Courts both in the City of *London* and elsewhere: the like not formerly extant: written by *R.T.* Gent. in 8o.

10. The first & second Part of *Counsel and Advice to Builders*, for the choice of their Surveyors, Clerks of their Works, Bricklayers, Masons, Carpenters, *&c.* With several Letters to his sacred Majesty, his Royal Highness, Prince *Rupert*, Duke of *Albemarle*, and other Lords, Knights and Gentlemen of the Realm, concerning the three chief Principles of Magnificent Building, *viz.* Solidity, Conveniency, and Ornament. Written by Sir *Balthazar Gerbier Donnilly*, Knight, in 8. A Work very necessary for all those that are concerned in rebuilding the citie of *London*.

11. *Don Juan Lamberto*: or, a Comical History of our late Times: wherein the Contrivances of the late Rebels under their Names are Jovially discovered, and

and to the life diſplayed: in two parts. By *John Philips* Gent. in 4.

12. The Royal Game of the *Ombre*, written at the requeſt of divers Honourable perſons, by *R. F.* Eſq; in 8.

At the ſame Shop alſo, any perſons may have Hiſtories, Romances, Plays, or other Books, lent them to read; or any that have Books to ſell, may there have Money for them.

THE

THE Characters and Pourtraicts OF THE COURT OF FRANCE.

FOr the better underſtanding of the Affairs and Intereſts of *France*, it is fit to know thoſe perſons that Govern, and ſuch as are any thing conſiderable, either for their Offices or Quality; And therefore we ſhall begin with the

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Characters of those that are most Eminent and Illustrious; To which shall be added their several Offices and Functions. We will distinguish the Order of the Kings Council, and the several Employments in the War. And lastly, treat cursorily of the Revenues whereby all these subsist.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF THE

KING,

And all His Preeminences.

THe Most Christian King is the Eldest Son of the Christian Church, by the consent of the States of Christendom, and the acknowledgement of the very Infidels themselves, who in their Treaties between *Henry* the IV, and the Grand *Signior*, gave him the Title of the greatest *Monarch* of the Christian Faith; really Soveraign, Absolute, and Immortal in his own

Kingdom of *France*. The ſucceſſion is by a Natural Right, and by vertue of the *Salique Law*, which conveys it from Male to Male, as they are neareſt in Blood, to the excluſion of the Females, who have ever contented themſelves with the Honour of being Dames of *France*, and ſubmitted to the Kings will therein; from whom they receive ſuch advantages as he is willing to beſtow, according to the greatneſs of his Dignity, and the intereſt of his Power. *Childebert* the Firſt of the firſt Race, was preferred before the Daughters of *Lewis* the II, without any oppoſition againſt that Election. *Philip* the IV. of *Valois* was preferred before *Iſabella* Daughter of *France*, and Queen of *England*. *Lewis* the XII. after *Charles* the VIII. *Francis* the Firſt next to him, and *Henry* the IV. after *Henry* the III.

The

The present King is the Son and Successor to *Lewis* the XIII, Grandson of *Henry* the IV, descended from *Anthony* of *Burbon* King of *Navarre*, and from *Robert* of *Clermont*, fourth Son of *Lewis* the IX. All his Genealogy derives from *Hugh Capet*, the first King of the third Race. He is of so handsome a shape and mine, that *Don Juan* of *Austria* seeing him pass by without any attendance, and the Queen having said to him, *Do you know that this is the King of France?* Replyed, *Although I am yet unacquainted with him, yet Madam I was perswaded in mind that he deserved that quality, looking upon him as the best accomplish'd Frenchman, and most worthy to Reign over them.*

He will be sole Master, and cannot endure to be governed by any other; he is bold, haughty, and

fearleſs; ſpeaks but little, and well to purpoſe; conſtant in his reſolutions, very ſecret and judicious. The *Portugal* Ambaſſadour told him once, *Sir, I ſhall diſpatch this buſineſs with your Miniſters. I have no Miniſters, Sir,* replied the King, *you mean our inferiour Officers.* At their return from *Lions*, the Cardinals having ſet ſome perſons aſide, for whom the King had a particular eſteem, he ſaid in the preſence of ſeveral of his Gentlemen, who have often affirmed it to me, *The Cardinal does all what he pleaſes, and I ſuffer it, becauſe of the good ſervices he has rendred me; but my turn will come to be Maſter one day.*

He covets to imitate his Grandfather, nay, even to ſurpaſs him, as himſelf once teſtified to *Monſieur de Paris*, who was diſcourſing of it: *The King my Grandfather did*

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many great things, and has left many great things to do; if it please God to let me live twenty years longer, I may, perhaps, do as great, if not greater things then he. There was never any Prince that knew better how to make himself be respected then this, nor to keep every one within his duty and distance; all which he effects without any noise, or the least appearance of clamour. I have also been a witness of his patience, upon a trial which would have lost it self in any other person. One afternoon at *Fountainbleau* he had given order to his Coachman to have his *Berlesche* there about four a clock, to go a hunting; the whole Court was in a readiness for the sport, and it had struck four a long while before by the Clock, yet the King's Coach came not. The King himself came often to the Balcone to

look for him: but it was on the ſtroke of five before the Coach appeared. The King going into the *Caleſche*, ſaid, *Coachman, I told you I would have the Coach at four a Clock. Sir*, replied the man, who had, it may be, tipled the time away, *It is but four now*. The King, who knew the contrary, ſaid no more, but, *Drive along, that's your beſt way, and never commit the like agen*. It is averred, that he pardons the firſt offence; ſeverely reproves the ſecond; but at third he turns them away without remiſſion. He requires an inviolable execution of all his Orders: when he had given command to ſeize on *Monſieur Fouquet*, at his coming forth from the Council, *Monſieur d'Artagnan* by accident miſs'd him, for he had not taken his own Sedan, but retired in another into a little Alley, to give Audience to

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ſome certain people. *Monſieur d'Artagnan* very much ſurprized, and fearing *Monſieur Fouquet* might have ſome intelligence of the deſign, and make a ſecret eſcape, immediately ſent a Muſquettier to give the King notice he was not to be found. The King was then writing a Letter about the detection of the ſaid Treaſurer to the Queen-Mother at that time at *Fountainbleau*; and the Souldier having told him the news, without naming any body, *Go*, ſaid the King, *and tell Artagnan that he muſt be found! and I ſhall find him well enough!* And then turning himſelf towards the Prince, *'Tis* Fouquet, *Couſen, that I intend to ſeize upon, becauſe he withholds all my Revenues, and puts me to a thouſand troubles to get a little money of him, of which he never gives me any account.* The Prince, and all the other Lords were

were much astonished at this, they knowing nothing of it; but every one commended the conduct and resolution of his Majesty.

He is very temperate, and was never known to give himself over to the least excess, amidst the abundance of his delights and pleasures, no more then he does to his anger, for all his Power and Authority; which plainly shews he is a perfect Master over himself, not tainted with any passion that might eclipse his other excellent Qualities: Or if there be any Objection against him, it is his Frugality; but that is inherent to the Family of the *Burbons*, who have ever been noted for great heapers up of Riches. But this reproach he hath wiped off very judiciously, by saying publickly, *My Subjects will, I hope, consider me as a young married man, who*

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is about ſetling his Family, and ought to take care of furniſhing himſelf plentifully; but within a while they ſhall find the effects of it; for I have a regard to them as well as to my ſelf.

He underſtands all his Exerciſes to the beſt advantage, eſpecially the *Mathematicks*, and the Art of *Fortification*. There is no Officer can command his Troops ſo diſtinctly, and with ſo much ſweetneſs. He rides the Great Horſe very gracefully and skilfully; and can uſe any Weapon with as much dexterity as any Maſter of thoſe Sciences. He Dances admirably; and though he wear ſometimes a diſguize, yet his Majeſtick Garb and Ayr does ſoon diſcover him. He laughs but ſeldom, and with much moderation; and the Jeſt muſt be very witty and well placed to gain his approbation, however others eſteem it.

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In fine, it muſt needs be acknowledged, that this Great King hath all the Vertues and Qualifications neceſſary to command ſo vaſt a Kingdom as his is: nay, ſo eminently is he endued with them, that he is worthy of the whole Worlds Empire, there being nothing wanting towards it, but his being fully known to all Nations, who without doubt would be charmed by his incomparable Vertues, and willingly ſubmit themſelves to the mildeſt and beſt-regulated Empire that was ever yet known to this Great Univerſe.

Of the Kings Family.

THe wiſe *Solomon* upon his firſt advancement to his Fathers Crown, built him a Houſe, ſuch as the Scripture repreſents to us of ſo marvellous a Structure, that it invited the Queen of *Sheba* to come and admire both its greatneſs and glory: and of this puiſſant King of *Lillies*, under the Conduct of an Illuſtrious Woman, one who is worthy of the Title of *Mother* of the greateſt Monarch in the World, I think we may ſay the ſame, if not more, who Reigns at preſent with ſo much ſplendour, through the Care and Noble Impreſſions of that Regent who guided him during his minority, and hath ſeated him on the Throne with

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ſo much Pomp and Majeſty, after ſhe had beſtowed an univerſal Peace. The ſtately building of the *Louvre* continued with ſo much heat, beſides the admirable Structure of a thouſand other Royal and Publick Buildings; the luſtre of the Throne ſuſtained with ſo much Judgement; the admirable Conduct in the eſtabliſhment and reglement of the Royal Family; the preſent re-union of the Princes; the general Peace, which ſpreads a joy over all the Earth: In fine, the auguſt and glorious preſence of *Lewis* the *Gift of God*, hath not only attracted a High-born and Wiſe Queen to come and admire his Greatneſs; but likewiſe tempts the greateſt and nobleſt part of all *Europe* beſides to behold him, whom Fame hath noiſed all abroad. All theſe, I ſay, are Subjects ſufficient to be compared to all the

Wonders

Wonders of Antiquity, and to make us repeat that paſſage in Scripture, *Verily I ſay unto you, That* Solomon *in all his glory was never equal to this Triumphant Monarch.* The Deſign or Model of the *Louvre* is to make four ſpacious Courts, where ſix thouſand men may be drawn up in *Battalia*: and beſides the regularity of the Buildings, and their ingenious Architecture, which is ſuppoſed ſhall ſurpaſs all that the height of Art or Greatneſs hath yet produced in the reſt of the World; They are contriving Apartments convenient and ſufficient to lodge the whole Royal Family, beſides all the Principal Officers of the Crown. Thus the Grandeur and Magnificence of the Court will be more conſpicuous in ſuch an Aſſemblage, then now as it is divided. In the mean while, till that Work be compleated, I ſhall trace out a

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ſlight draught of it, for the benefit of ſuch as deſire the knowledge of it.

This numerous and pompous Train belonging to his Majeſty, may be comprehended under theſe three Heads: The multiplicity of the Princes, or ſuch as the neceſſary Offices require, or thoſe whom for his Majeſties pleaſure and for the Ornament of the Court are conſtantly attending. Thoſe that are moſt fixed, like ſome brighter Stars ſtill following the Sun, are the Queen, the Princes of the Blood, and ſome other forraign Princes, who prefer the Honour of being under this Empire, above the Command of other Dominions, or the ſubjection of other Monarchs: and ſo highly do our Princes value their condition, though but Subjects in this Court, that thoſe of the Blood Royal never did, nor ever will give pre-

precedency to any other Subject Prince on Earth, nor to any of his Ambaſſadours, only to a Soveraign when preſent.

We have a Cloud of Examples, and one very freſh, between *Monſieur* and the Duke of *Savoy*, to whom his Royal Highneſs would not give the right hand, even when he came to his own Lodgings; which abſolutely hindred the interview betwixt thoſe two Princes. It is true, that *Monſieur* yielded to an Equality with the Prince of *Denmark*; but it was in reſpect of the infallible pretences he hath to be king of his Native Country, which is reckoned a *Soveraignty*. But this muſt be noted, that he would not however yield to any more then an Equality; and for this cauſe they never came together. This preeminence of the Princes of the Blood ſhines

brighter now, after the long conteſt betwixt the Princes of the Houſe of *Lorraine* and ours, which but a few days ſince was ſetled after this manner. During the former Reigns of *Henry* the II, *Charles* the IX, and *Henry* the III, the Houſe of *Guiſe* had acquired ſo much credit in the Court of *France*, that beſides that they were become the abſolute Maſters of all Affairs under the Regency of *Catharine* of *Medices*, they had flatter'd themſelves with ſome pretenſions to the Crown; a certain Canon of *Verdun* publiſhed in a Printed Book of his, that they were deſcended from *Charles* of *Lorrain*, who was deprived by the Eſtates of the right of Succeſſion to the Crown of *France*, and *Hugh Capett* was ſubſtituted in his ſtead. And though this Genealogy was falſe, as divers Authors have demonſtrated,

monſtrated, in clearing out their deſcent from the Counts of *Alſatia*; Nevertheleſs the *Guiſes*, who were very potent in the Kingdom, made uſe of this advantage: for the neceſſity of affairs, and the fear of their Authority, having obliged *Henry* the III. to condeſcend that the Princes of the Blood ſhould yield the right hand to the Chief of the houſe of *Lorrain*, and that the younger Sons of the Houſe of *Lorrain* ſhould in the ſame manner give the upper hand to the Princes of the Blood of *France*; Our Princes have never obſerved this order, but oppoſed it very vigorouſly, till ſuch time as the King by full Power and Authority, and knowing the Juſtice of their Cauſe, hath ordained, That ever hereafter, all the *Lorrain* Princes, and even the Head of that Family, ſhould give

place to the Princes of the Blood; and to this purpose he sent an Order by *Monsieur Tellier* to *Monsieur de Guise*, who is here the Chief or Head of that Family, to go and give a visit to the Prince, and to give place to him upon all occasions, yea, even in his own House; and to observe the very same towards all the rest of the Princes of the Blood: Which order was immediately executed by *Monsieur de Guise*, and afterwards by all the rest of that Family. There was another contest of Precedency between Strangers, or Forraign Princes, and the Dukes and Pairs. These pretended a Right as well as the Princes of the Blood, to go before forraign Princes, especially at great Solemnities, where they pretend to represent Soveraign Persons by vertue of their Dignities, which

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are undoubtedly the first and highest in the Kingdom. 'Tis true, they have heretofore been Soveraigns, and yet always Subjects or Vassals to the King, being obliged to render homage for what they held of the Crown. Their rise is attributed to *Hugh Capett*; for that Prince, to make himself King, agreed to bestow his Dutchies and Pairies to those great Lords who were most able to oppose him in his advancement to the Throne. This made them so potent, that having once declared to the Duke of *Aquitaine*, that he could not approve of his intents of making War upon the Duke of *Anjou*, and the Duke little regarding his resentment, the King bidding some body ask him, *Who it was had made him Duke of Aquitain?* He replied with much haughtiness,

Thoſe that made him King. And although they are now perfectly ſubmitted to Regal Authority, yet they are careful of preſerving the remainders of their Grandeur towards forraign Princes; whereupon many of them would not appear at the entrance of the King and Queen into *Paris* after their Marriage, becauſe the Count *de Soiſſons*, of the Houſe of *Savoy*, would not yield them the precedency and rank they claim in all Royal Ceremonies, by vertue of their Dignities. But what greatneſs ſoever theſe Nobles of *France* do attribute to themſelves, yet there are others that do contend with them for precedency, and go already in equal rank, having no leſs Authority in the Kingdom then they. Our Kings, to maintain an equal poiſe and temperament in the State, have always equally con-

conſidered Valour and Juſtice, and for this reſpect have made Gentlemen of the Robe, as well as of the Sword, having allowed them the ſame priviledges, advantages and immunities, without any diſtinction; it being indubitable, that a State conſiſts equally of Power and Juſtice: the Sword-men however have ſtill attributed ſomething of preeminence to themſelves; but thoſe of the long Robe, have wiſely taken the Superiority on their parts, of which they do not vaunt, though in effect they diſpoſe abſolutely of the Eſtates, Lives and Honour of the other, by an Authority of the Crown, wherewith they ſhelter themſelves, ſitting upon the *Royal Lillies*, as Judges of the greateſt Peers and Princes of the Blood, who are bound to ſtand to their Sentence, and

come in at their Summons, to anſwer for themſelves. I remember an Example during the laſt troubles, in the perſon of *Monſieur* the Prince; they had given him ſome cauſe to apprehend he might be again confined, though but newly out of Priſon; which occaſioned his retreat to S. *Maur*. The Parliament deputed two Counſellors to go to this Prince, and invite him to come and ſhew the Reaſons for his retiremens, to the Parliament. He comes accompanied with his Royal Highneſs, the Prince of *Conty*, the Princes of *Nemours*, *Guiſe*, and other Lords that aſſembled themſelves. There the firſt Preſident addreſſing his Speech to the Prince, boldly reprov'd him for withdrawing himſelf tumultuouſly from *Paris*, and told him, *That he would make him reſponſable for all the diſorders*

that

that ſhould happen, thoſe actions of his being but like the Alarms to a Civil War, during the Kings Minority; it being well known at Court, that he kept Secret Intelligence with the Kings Enemies, and cauſed ſeveral places to be fortified, amongſt which Bellegarde *was one.* To which the Prince replied, with as much heat, *That if any diſorders did happen in the Kingdom, themſelves would be the only cauſers of it; to which they had already given birth. That for his part, he deteſted the deſigne of any ſuch diſturbance in his Soul; and for the correſpondence they mentioned he held with the Enemy, it was falſe; nor could they produce the leaſt Witneſs againſt him; there being as little verity alſo in what they alledged touching* Bellegarde, *which they particularly objected; concerning which,*

he

he vow'd and proteſted both to his Royal Highneſs and the Court, that there had not been one ſhovel full of Earth removed to any ſuch intent. Upon which the firſt Preſident with as much confidence as he began, reſumed his Speech, and told him, *That indeed his words were good and plauſible, but yet many times mens words and intentions look contrary ways, as his were ſuſpected to do*; and then proceeded to reprove him in theſe terms: *It is very laudable to ſee the Prince of* Conde *keep within his Palace in the* Fauxburgh *Saint* Germaines, *and not vouchſafe to go over the new Bridge to wait upon the King his Lord and Maſter. This looks like an intrenching and barricading ones ſelf on the other ſide of the River againſt the* Louvre; *and what will ſtrangers ſay, Sir, when they hear of ſuch pro-*

proceedings of the Prince of Conde *towards the King?* The Prince replied again as ſmartly as at the beginning: *That his Royal Highneſs had given him caution not to do it, and would not undertake for the ſecurity of his perſon, the Cardinal* Mazarine *ruling ſtill in the hearts of the Court, where his Enemies were yet the ſtrongeſt party, and threatned him with a ſecond impriſonment. But that he ſtill muſt attribute all the diſorders and diſturbances that might happen, to their negligence, unleſs they would acquaint the King and Queen with his juſt Reaſons, and moſt humble Remonſtrances.* This conteſt betwixt the Preſidents and the Dukes and Pairs of *France* for Precedency, hath been of late ſtarted up more then ever, upon ſome accidents hapning in a general Proceſſion. One of theſe laſt Holy-

Holy days, the Preſident *de Meſmes* Footmen, being the more numerous, took place of the Duke of *Briſac's*, upon which there enſued a great quarrel and debate; but the Duke's were in fine conſtrained to yield to the number and ſtrength of the others; upon which the Duke's preferred their complaints, with a great deal of heat, having demanded for Juſtice againſt them; each of them made their own defence, and the Duke's have newly produced their *Manifeſto*, and preſented it to the King to have a deciſion of it. It is ſaid that his Majeſty goes in perſon the next week to the Parliament for this end, and to give order to the Chancellour to collect firſt the *Votes* of the Dukes and Pairs before thoſe of the Preſidents. But others that are very clear-ſighted, do believe that the buſineſs

buſineſs will be thus accommodated; That the Preſidents ſhall have precedency in the Parliament, but ſhall any where elſe give it to all Dukes and Pairs, eſpecially at Extraordinary Ceremonies, and Triumphant Showes, where the Sword ſeems to claim a Right above the long Robe. Of this we expect the Iſſue.

THE

THE
Character or Pourtraict
Of the
QUEEN-MOTHER.

ANna *Maria Mauritia* of *Auſtria*, Daughter of *Philip* the III. King of *Spain*, was married to *Lewis* the XIII. King of *France* and *Navarre*. The Marſhall *d'Ancre* made up this match, and carried the King to *Bourdeaux* to that end, whileſt an Army lay amuſing the Princes of the League in *Champagne*. She was married many years before ſhe had any children, but at length ſhe brought forth this King, and *Monſieur* only

ly, having never had any Daughters, or other Children then theſe two. After the death of *Lewis* the XIII, ſhe was declared *Queen Regent*, and made uſe of the counſel and adminiſtration of Cardinal *Mazarine*, during the time of her Regency and the Kings minority. The beginning of his Miniſtery was both peaceable, and happy enough: for, to gain the amity and good will of the great ones, he ſhewed the Kings favours upon them with an open hand indifferently, being contented to engage them to be of his party, that they ſhould ſhare with him in his Maſters Grace and Authority. He endeavoured likewiſe at firſt to ſtrengthen himſelf with ſome conſiderable Alliance; and to this purpoſe he ſent for ſome of his Nephews and Nieces, and other Relations, whom he cauſed

cauſed to be bred up at Court after the French Mode and Air, upon the hopes of future Grandeur. But we ſhall mention this Miniſter in a Chapter apart, which ſhall deſcribe both his Perſon and Conduct.

The Queen-Mother is a good and vertuous Princeſs, of a pacifique ſpirit, and an exemplary Piety. She wants neither for reſolution nor conduct in great affairs, nor for good will towards the publick Intereſt. Her great courage was apparent during the troubles of her Regency: when ſhe reſolved to make uſe of her power againſt *Paris*, and asked the Prince upon his return from the battail, *Will you ſuffer them to affront the Regal Authority?* (meaning the buſineſs of the Barricadues, when they would abſolutely have *Monſieur Bronſſel* releaſed

leased upon their popular insurrection) *This violence concerns you*, continued she. To whom the Prince replied, *Madam, behold, this sword of mine is ever at his Majesties service, which you may absolutely command.* She shewed also a great deal of resolution in her enterprize upon the Princes, whom she caused to be seized on by her Captain of the Guards; but her undaunted spirit appeared most eminently after the Cardinals absence, when she took the Helme of the State into her own hands, and steering all affairs during that hideous tempest, causing the King to be declared in his Majority, after she had driven the Prince into *Guyenne*, and confined the Cardinal *de Retz*, who had been flattered with the hopes of being chief Minister. In a word, she appeared

to be, what she really was, that is to say, good natur'd, and pacifick in her heart, when she forgave her enemies, without the smallest resentment of any injury; and stood for Peace in despite of the Cardinals intentions, even so far as to command him to make it up for the general good of all Christendom. She is Magnificent without excess, and glories in her Birth and Alliance. Her Devotion is more then common, and often repeated, yet without affectation or severity. Her Vertue appears without any disguize, she taking pleasure to do good in the best manner, thereby to attract the World to follow her vertuous Examples. Shee caused the *Val de Grace* to be built for her retreat, as a holy Solitude, whither she goes to seek her God out of the noise of the Court,

Court, and the confusion of State-Employments. She is very Charitable to the poor Convents, to whom she allows a comfortable subsistence; that so they may follow their Devotions and Studies, with their harmless Recreations. She hath always endeavoured to nourish a happy Union and Correspondence in the Royal Family; and by her vertue maintained her self as Mother to the King of *France* with so much discretion, that she yet retains a great Authority with a potent King, and a Noble Prince, who do each of them honour her most entirely. She made the match betwixt the King and the Daughter of *Spain*, whose Father is her Brother; having setled them in perfect Amity, to the great content of their Subjects, and the joy of all Christendom. She shewed a

great deal of moderation amidſt that power and plenty ſhe was Miſtreſs of; in an Age ſo corrupt and greedy of gain, that nothing is ſufficient to glut the deſires of moſt people. She alone never heaped up any Treaſure, but reſted content with what Nature, Juſtice, and her Quality brought freely to her Store.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict Of *MONSIEUR.*

HE is the Kings only Brother; a Prince well ſhaped, good natured, and very Gallant: he is not, however, ſo Majeſtick as the King; hath not that full ſtock of generous bounty, ſolidity, and haughty bravery. He is mild, agreeable, civil and obliging, very complaiſant to the Ladies, always gay and active, curious of rarities, and nice in his Habits and Modes, in his Furnitures and Cabinets, and very perfect in the Orna-

ments belonging to Architecture, the Art of Musick, Perspective and Agriculture. Though this Prince hath ever shewed an exact submission to all the Kings commands, and preserved an extreme respect for the Queen-Mother, yet he could never be brought to favour Cardinal *Mazarine*.

For it is reported, that the Cardinal one day at St. *Germains* passed by him, and pulled off his Hat by way of salutation; he onely cast an eye upon him, but moved not at all, not so much as to take notice of his civility, or return the ceremony. The Cardinal going immediately to the Queens apartment, complained openly to her, saying, *I do not know what I have done to* Monsieur, *that he should treat me with so much scorn; I thought he had a better esteem of me, having never given him*

him any occasion to treat me so. The Queen-Mother having sent for *Monsieur*, made him a thousand reproaches for it, and threatned him with some kinde of indignation, for not rising up to the Cardinal: To which *Monsieur* at the instant replyed, *Though he had been the Pope, I should not have risen to him.* He was threatned to be chastised for saying so; but he explained it very handsomely, telling them, *One doth not use to rise up to the Pope, but fall down upon ones knees before him, which I should then have been obliged to do.* He ever shewed himself averse to that Ministers proceedings, chiefly because he did not give him enough to maintain his Family, and his other divertisements in that splendor and magnificence as he desired, and as indeed was requisite to his quality

of the Kings Brother. He was bred up with a great deal of fear and respect towards the King, without much application to learning, or knowledge in the Art of War; yet he did sometimes ride the great Horse, but not with so much assiduity as the King. He hath a marvelous ready wit to make reparties: amongst others, let this shew his ability, it being somewhat remarkable.

The King took him one day to visit the Buildings at the *Louvre*, before *Monsieur Fouquet's* disgrace; and complaining, *That he wanted money to continue that vast Structure*; *Monsieur* replyed very aptly, *Sir, your Majesty must onely take upon you to be Superintendent of your revenues for one year, and you will have enough to carry on your Building.* He loves peace and quietness, seldom disturbing

ſturbing himſelf with the tumult and trade of War; yet he hath kept his Majeſty company, and endured all the fatigues of a long voyage, without trouble or complaint. Before his Marriage he had a great deal of friendſhip for Madam *de Hourdon*; and the Queen, to make ſome diſcovery of his minde, told him once, *That it ſeemed to her he was in love with that Lady, having ſent her a pair of Pendants worth four thouſand Crowns for a New years gift.* To which he anſwered, *That for friendſhip and compaſſion, he had indeed ſome towards her, as being a poor ſtranger far from her own Country, and deſtitute of means; which were indeed the reaſons why he ſent her that Regalio.*

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

Of the

PRINCE.

PRince *Lewis* Son of *Henry* of *Bourbon*, deſcended from *Lewis* Prince of *Conde*, younger Brother of *Henry* the IV. is one of the moſt couragious and ſtouteſt Captains either of this or former Ages, not excepting either *Alexander* or *Guſtavus Adolphus*; being ſo fearleſs of any peril or danger, that it hath been ſometimes judged he was rather deſperate then valiant. The Marſhal *Gaſſion*, who was one of the braveſt

braveſt men of his time, was deceived in him: the Prince, to convince him of his error, thought it ſufficient to let him know by experience, that no danger could in any attaque ſhake his great Soul. At the Battel of *Rocroy*, where this Prince made his firſt Eſſay, he never ſhewed the leaſt apprehenſion, although the beginning of it were very diſadvantagious to his party, and himſelf threatned with a general defeat; but he beſtirred himſelf with ſo much eagerneſs, and rallied up his broken and flying Regiments with ſo much courage and heat, and good example, that he made all the *French* at laſt reſolve either to vanquiſh, or die with him. The Baron *de Syrop*, one of the beſt reſolved men in his Army, did ſecond him extraordinarily well in this fight, and juſtly merited a

Mar-

Marſhals Staff for that eminent ſervice; but he miſſed that due recompence, and all other advantages ſince, rather by misfortune then any want of deſert: that days actions having proclaimed his worth to all the world. Beſides the battle of *Rocroy*, which was both his maiden-attempt and Maſter-piece; He hath gained three other Victories, two in *Germany*, at *Fribourgh* and *Nordlingen*: He alſo took *Philipsbourgh* in eighteen days, which had withſtood a Royal Seige for eighteen months, and ſaved it ſelf from the proſperous valour of the Great *Guſtavus*. The laſt battle he won was that of *Lens*; the joy and triumph for which Victory was ſilenced by the diſorder of the Barricado's, where the whole Kingdom was in confuſion, moſt people in Arms, and the Kings Palace

almoſt

almoſt beſieged; all which uproar happened about *Monſieur Bronſtet*, a Counſellor in Parliament, who had been that day arreſted upon his vigorous proceedings on ſome points in the behalf of the people. The *Pariſians* in this action plainly violated all Authority through their obſtinacy, obliging the Miniſters to ſurrender up the Priſoner, with two others who were taken with him; and in this great heat of theirs, they remained three whole days and nights in Arms; nor would they be appeaſed till he was reſtored, whom they called the Protector of the People, and had brought him back with triumph and general acclamations in the Kings own Coach.

The Prince employed all his courage to revenge this ſeditious act; and his reſolve being fixt to beſiege

beſiege the City, he went out thence in the night with the whole Court, leaving thoſe that remained in a horrible conſternation; but after much ado, things being brought to an accommodation, the Court returned to *Paris*; and the fruits of all the Princes labours came to this, that he drew the general odium and hatred of the Citizens upon himſelf, by his being ſo forward and buſie to endeavour their chaſtiſement. However, the Prince having ſerved the Court ſo faithfully on all occaſions, thought he had reaſon to expect ſome conſiderable recompence; and being obliging, active, and reſtleſs, he after preſſed the Cardinal, in favour of ſome of his relations, for ſome Command or Office.

The Cardinal thinking to remove him from any vicinity to the

the Court, presents him with the Government of *Guienne* in lieu of that of *Burgundy*; which the Prince readily gave way to, as well because it is more honourable, as because he hoped to keep the better correspondence and intelligence with the *Sieur de Marsin*, Lieutenant-General in *Catalonia*, who was his Creature.

But this not being enough to secure him from the private attempts of Enemies, they assaulted his Coachon the *Pont-Neuf* in disguise, shot into it, and wounded a Page, who then sat in the Princes Seat. The Prince made a narrow and diligent search after these Assasines; and some jealousies there were of *Monsieur de Beaufort*, and the Cardinal *de Retz*: but whilst he was laying an Ambuscade to intrap some of the Accomplies,

Accomplies, he never imagined they had pitched their Toils to take him, and conduct him to the *Bois de Vincennes*, whither he was led Priſoner by his Majeſties Order. Never did ſo great a heart ſo patiently ſubmit to confinement: himſelf directed the beſt way to that place, which he had found out upon an occaſion of carrying ſome Guns thither, during the troubles at *Paris*, which could not be drawn the other way, by reaſon of the deepneſs of it.

About thirteen months afterwards he was releaſed, upon occaſion of the Intrigue between the Cardinal *de Retz* and the Parliament; a Letter which he writ with a Back-lead-pen, and which was ſigned by the Prince of *Conti* and the Duke of *Longueville* his Brothers, and companions in his reſtraint

reſtraint, being preſented to the Parliament, to whom it was directed, did very much contribute to his releaſe. He hath ever ſince been very jealous of the Cardinal, and rather adventured to withdraw himſelf into *Flanders*, then to fall again into his hands. But although he ever was his Enemy, yet he nevet ſpake any ill of him; only he would ſometimes let his friends know he did not approve of his Conduct. He was ſaying once, *That there were three perſons in* France *that made much noiſe; one was the Marſhal of* Turenne, *who was the beſt and moſt prudent Captain of thoſe times, but yet very unfortunate. Another, the Cardinal* Mazarine, *who was the ableſt in the World for Counſel, but the greateſt coward alive. The laſt was himſelf, who had neither of thoſe two perfections, but*

yet was much happier then either of them He is now returned to his duty, and yields his obedience with so much submission and adherence, that it is easily judged, he had no quarrel with his Master, but all his discontent arose from Cardinal *Mazarine*, with whom he was again presently reconciled. He is Brave, Generous, Learned, and Active as any man alive, nor does he want discretion when occasions call for it. At present he is very intent about the *Oeconomy* of his Family, enquiring into all the minutest concernes thereof; and having made so great an Alliance betwixt his only Son, and a Princess of the *Palatine* House, his chief care is to heap up Treasure sufficient for the maintenance of so Illustrious Persons.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict Of the DUKE.

HE is a young Prince not at all wanting of that Courage and Spirit of his Ancestors; he is Prompt and Active, and keeps an absolute Authority over all those that are submitted to him: yet hath he Allay enough to temper his heat, and to do all things with prudence and circumspection. He delights much in hunting, even to the discomposing himself sometimes, as he did at *Fountainbleau*. He hath been a

hard Student, and ſpeaks divers Languages. He hates great Ceremonies, and tedious Diſcourſes; and gives quick diſpatch to thoſe that addreſs themſelves to him about buſineſs. He promiſes very much for the future, and hath both Heart and Capacity enough to imitate his Fathers exploits of Warre.

It is ſaid that he hath ſome hopes and pretences to the Crown of *Poland*. Certain it is, that he is the adopted Son of the King and Queen of that Country, as having eſpouſed that Queens Niece. He does every thing very gracefully, and without any affectation. He takes the upper hand of his Father, for what reaſon I know not, though ſome attribute it to a paternal Humility and Goodneſs, which I moſt encline to; as others ſay

that

that it arises from the consideration of his Nobility, which augments the more, by how much it is the older and more distant from its Origine: others imagine it is only for his Fathers convenience, who thinks that place in the Coach less easie; holding this Maxime, *That it is the Person gives the Dignity to the Place, not the Place to the Person*; as may be observed in the Queen-Mother, who ever rides in the fore-part of the Coach. His knowledge is great in Poetry, he taking a delight to read and remember things that are exquisite in that kind. Every ordinary divertisement does not relish with him, but there must be something more then common in them to gaine his approbation. He answers any Philosophical Question with a great deal of Wit and Judgment;

and would please himself very much with a Magnificent Train, stately Balls and Masques, and all other splendid appearances, if his Father did not moderate his inclinations a little, and reform his expences to the just measure of Decency, and the quality of his Illustrious Birth.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict OF THE Prince of CONTY.

HE is mild, good natur'd, and accomplished in all excellent Qualities. He is very Learned in all the Sciences, and hath been admired in the most celebrated Academy for his great Wit, and capacity in the knowledge of the highest points of *Theology*: but besides his Titles and excellent Qualities, he is Master of a very great stock of Bounty and Vertues. His life is a fit Exemplar for the best Courts, and makes

good the possibility of being a very great Lord, and a very honest man.

His Lady is a most vertuous Princess, who agrees admirably well with him in his Zeal and Piety; and had the Cardinal brought no other benefit to *France*, but the bestowing of so rare a person on us, who is so Noble and Charitable to the World, he would deserve our eternal thanks and praises, since by her means, Millions of our lives have been preserved during the Famine; besides the many Souls she hath saved by her frequent Prayers and eminent Examples; insomuch, as this Prince and Princess are the true patterns of Piety, amidst the Pomp and Bravery of this Age. I shall not mention the Beauty of this Woman; for though she be of an excelling Shape, yet that is the least

leaſt of her perfections, ſhe being infinitely good and wiſe, charitable and diſcreet, and in a word, a complete Model of Chriſtian Perfection. There is a worthy Branch of the Noble Stock, who is called *Monſieur le Comte*, who is as yet too young to ſhew the World the advantages he is like to derive from ſuch a worthy Birth. All that is yet obſerved, is his ravishing prettineſs, and ſuch a Phyſiognomy as promiſes he will hereafter keep up the Fame and Reputation of his Illuſtrious Parents.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict Of *Mademoiselle de Montpensier.*

Mademoiselle de Montpensier the elder is of the house *Bourbon*, both by Father and Mother. *Gaston* the Son of *France*, yonger brother to *Lewis* the XIII, was her Father; and *Mary de Montpensier*, his first wife, derived her Birth from *Henry* Duke of *Montpensier*; and that *Henry* from a third Son of the house of *Bourbon*, whose direct line failed at the death of the Constable, & revived again in *Charles* the Second Son of

of that Family: the third Son having begotten the Prince *de la Roche Suryon*, and the Duke of *Montpenſier*, from whom *Mary* the Mother of *Mademoiſelle* was deſcended. The Princeſs being of the blood of Kings and Princes, is haughty, daring, and of a more then feminine courage. It may be truely ſaid, ſhe is an Amazon, and fitter to manage the Sword then a Diſtaff, which ſhe made appeare at the buſineſs of St. *Antonie*, where the Princes fortunes being deſperate, and her Father not daring to appear, to ſave the Prince of *Conde*'s party, who were at the brink of deſtruction; She went to the Town-hall, and took the Provoſt of the Merchants and the Governor of *Paris* by the Beards, uſing great threats, to oblige them to arm and raiſe the Citizens for the de-

fence

fence of the Prince; from whence she went to her Father, his Royal Highness, in his Palace, whom she in a manner constrained to go with her to the *Bastille*, that so his presence might support the staggering forces: and all that rising of the Citizens, (an enterprize too rugged and daring for that softer Sex, especially against a Royal Army, and in presence of their Majesties) was an action hardly to be excused, but upon the consideration of the rashness of a woman, the Kings minority, and the general aversion at that time against Cardinal *Mazarine*. For she commanded them to fire their Cannon upon the Kings Army, and facilitated the Princes retreat, opening the City-Gates to him; which saved both him and his whole party from evident ruine. She is passionate, resolute

ſolute and active, free in diſcourſe, and endures not to be contradicted in her opinions. She never cared for the Kings, nor her Fathers Miniſters, becauſe that obliged her to ſome condeſcention towards them. She had formerly ſome thoughts of marrying the Arch-Duke *Leopold* of *Auſtria* without the Kings conſent, which obliged his Majeſty to have a Guard attending her, and to ſecure all the paſſages into *Flanders*, leſt ſhe ſhould throw her ſelf into his Arms, who then made War againſt *France*. It is ſaid ſhe otherwhile refuſed the King of *Engiands* courtſhip, during his misfortunes; which is a fault of youth, not to be repaired. I hold it ſomewhat difficult to believe that her great heart could ſubmit it ſelf to any mans commands, how potent and noble ſoever he might be

be. She is the richeſt Princeſs in *Europe*; for ſhe enjoys above eight hundred thouſand Livres revenue in Lands yearly. She is of a very tall and handſome proportion, of a Maſculine aſpect, a confident and free garb and pace, a majeſtick preſence, and yet a pleaſing and graceful converſation. Her humour is ſomewhat impatient, ſprightly, and forward to undertake whatever ſhe deſigns; and being a ſtranger to any kind of diſſimulation, ſpeaking her minde freely without diſguiſe, not caring who liſtens. It is thought they apprehended at Court, that ſhe would expreſs ſome diſcontent, by reaſon of the Marriage of her younger Siſters before her, who were by another Mother; or elſe upon ſome reſentment written or ſpoken, ſhe was commanded to with-

withdraw her ſelf from the Court to her own Eſtate, where ſhe remains in a great deal of freedom and liberty, and not without much hopes of being ſuddenly recalled to Court, where ſome advantagious propoſitions are on foot for a fit match for her, but with what Monarch is not ſo well known.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

Of the

Houſe of *Vendoſme.*

THe Duke of *Vendoſme*, named *Cæſar* of *Bourbon*, is the natural Son of *Henry* the IV, and the Marchioneſs of *Eſtrée*, called the beauteous *Gabriele*. The exceſſive tenderneſs which the King his Father had for this Lady, and for this Son, had almoſt cauſed his legitimation by a Marriage, which the King had given his promiſe for, in favour of that Miſtreſs; which promiſe in writing *Monſieur de Roſny* tore in pieces

in

in her preſence, as *Monſieur de Sully* mentions in his Memoires. He does very much reſemble that great Prince his Father; is well ſhaped, and of a good meen. He is ſomething jovial, and hath wit enough; but above theſe, he is really good natured, mild, and extraordinary affable. He was a long while abſent from Court with his Family, in the late Kings days; but ſince this Mans Reign, he returned again with all the honour due to his birth and quality; nay, his Majeſty conferred the office of high Admiral upon him, which is one of the higheſt in the Kingdom, and hath beſtowed the reverſion upon *Monſieur de Beaufort* the youngeſt of his Sons, inſomuch that he is now higher at Court then ever; his age and experience making him capable of that great imployment, which he

executes with all the conduct and advantage required, especially by the assistance and activity of his Son. The Duke of *Mercoeur* is his eldest Son, who marryed one of Cardinal *Mazarines* Neeces: which match was kept secret; but in fine, she being great with Child, they were compelled to a discovery: there had been some propositions for this alliance before, which the Prince seemed to dissent from, for the interest of the Family; but the riddle being resolv'd, there was no more withstanding it: the Cardinal having plaid the surer Game, fearing some opposition might arise. This Prince is very free and open-hearted, facile, and one that loves his divertisements; he minds not much the Court-intrigues, but being Governour of *Provence*, he passes his time very contentedly,

ly, without that noiſe or magnificence natural to his Family. The Duke of *Beaufort* is a wild humble Prince, and civil even beneath his quality. He was in raillery called *Roy des Halles* during the troubles, becauſe he was beloved and followed by all the populace, to whom he never refuſed to pull off his Hat. He is accompliſh'd and well proportioned, very fair, and rides a Horſe excellently; they ſay he is the beſt Marks-man with a Piſtol in *France*. He had a ſad occaſion to try his skill, after the fight at St. *Anthonies*, upon the Perſon of Mr. *de Nemours* his Brother-in-law, whom he killed upon the place, though againſt his will and inclination, which tends another way: ſome youthful raſhneſs precipitated *Monſieur de Nemours* to that duel, where *Beaufort* was engaged of neceſſity

to defend himſelf: after the unhappy ſhot, he betook himſelf to the Convent of the *Chartreux* with an inexpreſſible grief. The ſurvivance of the Admiralty is beſtowed upon him, in which quality he commands his Majeſties Fleet at Sea, againſt the *Barbary* Pirates of *Tunis* and *Algier*.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

Of the

Duke of *GUISE.*

THere are none I ſuppoſe that are ignorant of the grandeur of this family under the laſt reigns, their elevation under *Henry* the II, their increaſe under *Charles* the IX; to whom they became jealous, as well for the good meen, as their Magnificence; and in fine, their prodigious authority under *Henry* the III, who was obliged, for the ſecurity of his Crown, to ſecure the head of this Family at

Blois, together with his Brother the Cardinal. The Duke of *Guise* his Son was propounded to be King of *France* by the *Spaniards*, during the League againſt *Henry* the IV, after his eſcape out of the Caſtle of *Tours* where the King held him priſoner.

But the Duke of *Mayenne* looking upon him as a younger Brother of his Family, would not endure the propoſition, inſomuch as their diviſion ſerved to the advancement of the Kings affairs, who pardoned him for that rebellion, according to his uſual clemency, and advanced him to the Covernment of *Provence*.

Monſieur de Guiſe is at preſent the onely remaining branch of that Family; he retains very many of his Anceſtors worthy qualities,

and eſpecially their Magnificence, which is as it were natural to him. He is one of the greateſt Gallants in the Court, and in his youthful days was very amorous; he loved the Princeſs of *Nevers*, the Queen of *Polands* Siſter, with a moſt violent paſſion. He married the Counteſs of *Boſſum*, one of the beautifulleſt Ladies of *Flanders*; and being afterwards paſſionately enamoured with *Madame du Pont*, he went to *Rome* to annul his firſt Marriage, that he might tye a new knot with this laſt. She kept an abſolute correſpondence with him, ſo that her love to him was as great as his to her. But being unable to obtain his deſires of the Pope, he took occaſion to go to *Naples*, where all was in confuſion, by reaſon of *Thomas Aniello's* revolt: At his arrival he became very conſiderable amongſt the peo-

ple of that great City; and flattering himself with the hopes of making a Conquest of it for the King, provided they would succour him from *France*, he added in his Letter, written to that purpose, *That he desired no other recompence for that glorious Expedition, but onely to have* Madam du Pont. Whereupon the Cardinal judging this passion and expression a sign of weakness in him; and being unwilling to hazard so many men upon so vain an attempt, left him to himself; so that being taken Prisoner by the *Spaniards*, and carried into their Country, he was freed again during the troubles in *Guienne*, at the Request of the Prince, thinking thereby to gain him to his own party; but the King having dispatched *Monsieur de Verderonne* to release him, he

came directly to Court, without ſo much as once waiting on the Prince, to whom he was obliged for moving the buſineſs firſt; which occaſioned the Court to take ſome notice of it, and afterwards obtain his liberty. Since that time he hath ſold and waſted moſt of his eſtate upon a new deſign on *Naples*, and the *Idea's* of conquering a Kingom. Without doubt he hath a great ſoul; but being unlimited, he hath waſted the Eſtate of the whole Family: whereupon *Madam de Guiſe* (ſpeaking once to the Queen-Mother) ſaid, *That the Dukes of* Guiſe *had formerly amaſſed ſo much Riches, that they were become jealous and terrible, but there was now an Heir able to deſtroy and ſquander all away again, ſo that there would be no cauſe of fear and apprehenſion of their great*

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neſs hereafter. He is well ſhap'd, obliging, mild, civil, amorous; he ſpeaks exactly, and writes good verſe, having ſome knowledge of whatever is exquiſite. He hath as it were, a natural faculty in riding and managing a great Horſe, and behaves himſelf more gracefully then any man at the running at the Ring, or any kind of Turnament. He is infinitely delighted with thoſe noble exerciſes, which he undertakes with more happineſs then any Querry in *France*.

There are likewiſe in *France* ſome younger Brothers of the Houſe of *Lorraine*; amongſt others, the Count of *Harcourt*, frank, haughty, valiant, as he hath ſhewed himſelf in ſeveral occaſions, eſpecially before *Turin* againſt the Marquis *D' Eguux*, who had invited the Ladies of

that

that City to ſee him make a breakfaſt of the French, where himſelf was ſoundly beaten by this Count of *Harcourt*, who had not above ſeven thouſand men againſt fifteen thouſand. He alſo performed ſome things that ſeem to be above all belief, at the taking the Iſles of St. *Marguerit*, and St. *Honorat*, with a very ſmall force, contrary to the Worlds expectation.

He made War likewiſe in *Catalonia*, but not ſo ſucceſfully, being forced in his Trenches before *Lerida*. He undertook, and effected above hopes, the conducting of the Princes of the blood, *Conde*, *Conty* and *Longueville*, Priſoners to *Havre de Grace*. He hath the Office of Grand *Eſcuyer* of *France*, and the Count of *Armagnac* his Son hath the reverſion

verſion; and it is ſaid, old and tyred as he is, he yet deſires the King would imploy him in his ſervice, that he may dye no otherwhere but in the Field, the Bed of Honour.

THE

THE
Character or Pourtraict
Of the
Houſe of *Longueville.*

THe Count *De St. Paul* ought to have been ranged before the Duke of *Guiſe*; but becauſe of the Kings Declaration in favor of the Houſe of *Lorrain*, that they ſhall go next to the Princes of the Blood of *France*, I obſerve that Method, though it be yet but in *Idea*, and againſt which, this Prince hath made his Proteſtation; which for my part I ſhall not intereſt my ſelf in, but leave it wholly to his Majeſties deciſion.

And

And truly his Family, although deſcended from *John Count de Dunois*, a natural Son of the Duke of *Orleans*, hath been declared capable of ſucceeding to the Crown, having aſſiſted the *Pucelle* of *Orleans* more then any one in regaining the Kingdome from the *Engliſh*, who had uſurped it in the time of *Charles* the VII. He is the Son of *Henry* of *Orleans* lately deceaſed, who hath left him Heir of much Wealth, and more Vertues; he being a Prince of the greateſt hopes in the World. He is a very graceful Perſon, of much Wit, Courage and Learning; a great lover of Arts and Sciences, Vertuous, and in fine, one that promiſes to be nothing leſs then his great Anceſtor, who rendred this Kingdom ſuch eminent and extraordinary ſervices. But he is yet only

only learning his Exerciſes, which he begins to perform with that dexterity, that the world admires him. His eldeſt Brother is become a Jeſuite, and hath left him ſole Heir of the richeſt Family amongſt the Princes.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF THE

New Houſe of *Soiſſons.*

HE who at preſent bears the Title of the Count of *Soiſſons*, is the youngeſt Son of the deceaſed Prince *Thomas* of *Savoy*, and the Princeſs of *Carignan*, Daughter of the true Houſe of *Soiſſons*. He is well ſhap'd, mild, and civil; and is, as it were, the eldeſt of the Family, his eldeſt Brother being both deaf and dumb. He married one of Cardinal *Mazarines* Nieces, by which means he got very much in favor.

He

He enjoys the Command of Colonel of the *Swissers*, which is one of the handsomest imployments about the Court. Besides this, he is Governour of *Champagne* and *Brie*, and in a word, is one of the best setled Princes in the whole Kingdom. He was in disgrace some years since for attempting to draw his Sword upon the Duke of *Novailles*, in behalf of his Wife, who contended with the Dukes Lady about the Privilege of giving the Queen her Napkin; but he is now restored again, and more then ever respected by his Majesty.

THE

Character or Pourtraict

Of the

House of *Courtenay*.

THis Family, though very illustrious, and indeed descended from the Kings of *France*, is very low at present; and unless the King out of his meer bounty be pleased to raise them again, they must be contented to remain as they are, the Relicks of a Princely House, with onely the bare title of Nobility.

There are yet extant of this Family a Father and Son, called Princes of *Courtenay*; and a Knight of

of *Malta*, a younger Sprigg of them. Nothing is more true, then that they were of the Royal ſtock, having loſt their right of Succeſſion by their own default and negligence, having miſ-allied themſelves, and changed their Coat of the Arms of *France*, which they ſhould ever have preſerved, as an infallible mark of their Original. Thus have they deprived themſelves voluntarily of a great advantage; and according to Law,

Volenti non fit Injuria.

They remain ſtill in obſcurity, though they have many times endeavoured to raiſe themſelves again, and reſtore their Family to its wonted quality and ſplendour.

There are other Lords who

take upon them the title of Princes, as the Princes of *Bouillon*, or *Sedan*, *De la Rochefaucalt*, *De Marſillac*, *De Tarante*; amongſt whom, the moſt conſiderable for his great exploits, is the Marſhal *Turenne*, younger Son of the Family of *Bouillon*. He is a perſon of great conduct, and admirable judgement; prudent in the midſt of Battles, and fearleſs in dangers and perils: and though he hath not always had the ſucceſs he deſerved; yet in the opinion of brave Warriours, he is eſteemed one of the greateſt Captains this Age affords. He was ever moſt fortunate when he commanded for the King, as may be obſerved by the taking of *Stenay*, his relieving of *Arras*, and the gaining of the moſt important places in *Flanders*, before the concluſion of the laſt peace: On the contrary,

at

at the Battle of *Rhetel*, he loſt a great number of men, and had like to have been taken Priſoner himſelf. He married the Daughter of the deceaſed Marſhal *de la Force*, by whom he hath no Iſſue. He hath no defect, but that of his Religion, founded upon a falſe Maxime, *That a man ought to dye in that Religion he was born in*; which ought not to be maintained, but in the true Church. He is a man of Faith, and of his word, in reſpect of the world; and glories in this, that he never failed of his promiſe to any one; which begets a great deal of credit and aſſurance towards him.

There is likewiſe the Marſhal *Gramond*, Soveraign of *Bidache*, who is one of the ableſt Counſellours about the Court, and one that wants not for any cou-

rage at a time of need. He obeys Authority and Command as it were blindfold, and is accuſed for giving Battle at *Honincourt* againſt all appearance of ſucceſs: but when this raſhneſs was objected againſt him, he anſwered, That he had a written Order from the Cardinal *Richelieu*, who then had the ſole command; and this was when the King was at *Perpignan*, and the Cardinal, as it were, in diſgrace; who to re-eſtabliſh himſelf in his former power, and get an opportunity to revenge himſelf of thoſe Enemies that had brought him to that condition, by the means of his Royal Highneſs, and *Monſieur de* St. *Mare*, he deſigned to give the King this conſiderable Chocque, being then at a great diſtance from *Paris* and the Frontiers of *Flanders*; which

which ſucceeded juſt as he deſigned it: for the King being ſurprized at this ſudden blow, and imagining all was loſt, ſaid aloud, *Alas! then ſhall I not return to* Paris! for they had apprehenſions for that great City, deſtitute of any Forces, and too far from any relief againſt a victorious Army. But *Monſieur de Noyers* taking his time, replyed, *Sir, there is none but the Cardinal that can ward this fatal blow.* Whereupon the King immediately ſent for him, and reſtored all power and commands to him, enjoyning him to provide for the ſafety of the Nation, and take a juſt revenge of his oppoſers, who were immediately ſeized, and *Monſieur de* St. *Mare* and *Monſieur de Thou* executed at *Lyons* a while after, as guilty of Treaſon againſt his Majeſty, in the perſon of his chief Miniſter of State.

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF THE

Cardinal *de Retz.*

THis Cardinal is the Son of the General of the Gallies, by name Father *Gondy*, Prieſt of the *Oratory*. And the reaſon which moved him to take a Religious Habit was this; having informed the King of ſomewhat, he quoted *Monſieur de Liancourt* for his Author: the King having ſent for *Monſieur de Liancourt* to know the truth, he flatly denied that he had mentioned any ſuch thing to *Monſieur de Gondy*. This affront

of

of giving him the lye, ſhould have ſucceeded to a Duel; but reſigning his reſentment and ſatisfaction to God in favour of his friend, he reſolved to quit the Court, and indeed the World, and retire himſelf to thoſe Fathers of the *Oratory*. His Son at that time Abbot of St. *Berigre* was elected Coadjutor to the Arch-Biſhop of *Paris* his Uncle. During the Troubles, he made himſelf famous under that quality, having raiſed a Regiment for the *Pariſians*, which at Court was in a ſcoffing way called the *Corinthian Band*, from his being entituled to that Arch-Biſhoprick of *Corinth*, *In partibus infidelium*. He obliged the Court to make him a Cardinal, even againſt their Wills; for the Cardinal *Mazarine* being otherwiſe unable to break that Party called *Les Frondeurs*,

deurs, whereof he was Chief, reſolved to fruſtrate him of the Cardinals Cap, and deluded him; and therefore upon their diſſolving that League framed againſt him, he had the grant of the Kings nomination of him for a *Cardinalſhip*; but another Expreſs was immediately diſpatched after his Meſſenger, to oppoſe his Promotion at *Rome*, which he ſomewhat doubted of; and having given his Kinſman, the *Bailly Gondy*, Secretary of State to the Great Duke of *Florence*, notice of it, he ſet all his Friends, and all the Engines imaginable on work to advance his Family by this means; and having at the ſame time cauſed *Mazarines* Meſſenger to be way-laid in his paſſage, he was ſtopp'd while they carried on their deſign at *Rome*, where they obliged the Pope to call an extra-

ordinary

ordinary Aſſembly, to expedite the buſineſs: So that having eluded the Cardinals crafty deſign by this handſome ſubtilty, he grew very much ſuſpected at Court, where they believed him capable of great undertakings. Cardinal *Mazarine* became both jealous and afraid of him, and therefore to enſnare him, he was flattered with the hopes of being made a Miniſter of State, to which the Queen-Mother ſeemed to encline. This extraordinary favour having ſwell'd his thoughts, he imagined he might attain it, and went to Court, accompanied with his Guards, attending the Queen with great exactneſs. In the end, ſtaying there one day at Dinner-time, the Queen bid him go to dinner himſelf; but he waiting till the Queens Fruit was ſerved in, and then taking his leave with

great

great reſpect, and having had ſome good words from her Majeſty, he was ſeized on upon the Stair by a Captain of the Guards, who commanded him in the Kings name, to go into a Room, where they had a Dinner provided for him; after which he was carried to *Vincennes*, and there tranſported to *Nants* Caſtle, being committed to the Cuſtody of the Marſhal *de Milleray*.

He made his eſcape from that Priſon, and riding poſt to ſave himſelf, fell, and put his Arm out of joynt. There were ſome ſent after him; but having cauſed ſome of his Gentlemen to continue riding in the ordinary Road, he deceived thoſe that purſued him, and kept himſelf concealed in a Barn, which he afterwards forſook, and travelled in By-ways. He went out of the Kingdom the

neereſt

neereſt way, and retired himſelf in St. *Sebaſtians* Port, which is under the *Spaniards* Dominion.

The Governour having heard of his arrival, ſent notice to the King his Maſter; and according to Order, came and viſited the Cardinal *de Retz*, and offered him 7000 Piſtols. The Cardinal refuſed them, telling him, he would receive money from none but the King his own Maſter; and all he craved of the King of *Spain* was a free paſſage, and ſecurity againſt his Enemies, which he hoped for. The Governour replyed, That the King of *Spain* was able enough to make ſuch preſents, and did not pretend thereby to gain a perſon of his quality to ſide with him, but he intreated him not to refuſe that liberality. The Cardinal being fully reſolved not to accept of

any

any thing, though he were in the extremeſt neceſſity: The Governour returned next day with 2000 onely, and told him, That the King of *Spain* knew he was in want of ſome money, and therefore he would take it very kindly if he accepted but of that ſmall ſum: Whereupon the Cardinal being unwilling to ſhew too much obſtinacy, took 500 to ſerve him only for defraying his charges into *Toſcany*, whither he deſigned to go; and returning his thanks to the King by the Governour, he proſecuted his journey the very next day. He arrived at *Florence*, where he was very cordially received, and treated with all imaginable magnificence: amongſt other rarities which were ſhewed him at the Great Dukes Palace, he ſtood a while to gaze on the Picture of *John de Medicis*, a Cardinal

dinal, and General of an Army, in a negligent habit, as it was ſaid, he was wont to go; whereupon he ſaid, *Thoſe Gentlemen our Anceſtors were not ſo Ceremonious as we are now adays; and yet I believe they were no leſs honeſt and conſiderable then we are now.*

But though he had boaſted then, that in deſpite of Cardinal *Mazarine*, he ſhould die Arch-Biſhop of *Paris*; yet he hath ſhewed a great deal of moderation in his ſurrender of it into the hands of his Majeſty, who made it known that ſuch was his Royal pleaſure.

He is, without doubt, very generous, magnificent, and full of honour and vertue; learned, wiſe, and very capable of being a Miniſter of State, were he called to it.

THE

THE
Character or Pourtraict
Of
Cardinal *Baberino*,
Called the
Cardinal *Antonio*.

HE is Nephew of *Urban* the VIII, and the youngeſt Son of his Family. He is great Chamberlain of the holy Church (Chair) and in his Name are all affairs diſpatched after the death of the Pope, and during the Election, in whoſe life-time he keeps his Holineſſes Ring. He is great

great Almoner of *France*, Archbishop of *Rheims*, first Duke and Pair of *France*, Abbot of *S. Denis*. He was born Commander of the Kings Orders, and hath the right of Information touching the lives and behaviours of the Knights of the Order, and receives the profession of their faith. This Office is *Solstitium Honorum* in *France*, the Zenith of all Honours; which was created by *Francis* the first, in favour of Cardinal *Antonio Mendon*. He administers the Oath of Fidelity to the King, and takes it of all the other Ecclesiasticks, according to the Court of Bishops and Archbishops of *France*, Grand Priors of *Aquitaine*, *Auvergne*, *Champagne*, and other considerable Abbies. He delivers the prisoners from their bondage upon solemn Festivals, or days of Coronation, and the like extraordi-

nary occaſions. He diſpoſes of the whole ſtock of the Kings Alms, and exerciſes all theſe Functions, without any dependence upon others as ſuperiour; which power he can communicate to whomſoever he pleaſeth. He is milde, peaceable and humble; loves the French way of living, and hath otherwhile governed the affairs of the Church during the life of his Uncle. It is reported of him, that when the War hapned to be made upon the Duke of *Parma*, having no great skill in the Military Art, he ſtudied a whole night to frame an equivocal Letter when he was to ſend his Orders to the Generals; that ſo, in caſe things ſucceeded wel, he might reap the glory of the Enterpriſe; and if Fortune were averſe, there might be room enough left to excuſe himſelf, by pretending they had not comprehended his meaning in their attempts. THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF

The Chancellour.

MOnsieur *Segnier*, issued from a family of the Robe, hath had some of his ancestors officiating in the greatest State-employments. Such men are usually made to pass thorow those lower employments of the Long Robe first, and are afterwards according to their abilities called up to the Soveraign degree of Chancellour of *France*, which is the chief of all Judicature. He is prudent

and judicious, and is accounted the moſt learned perſon in the Kingdom. He declares his Majeſties minde when he liſts in Parliament; who having in few words expreſſed himſelf, to take off the trouble of a long *Harangue*, tells them, *My Chancellour ſhall inform of what I have more to ſay.* He ſits at the Kings feet on a black Velvet Cuſhion; preſiding in the Great Council in his Majeſties abſence; which Office he holds for his whole life. The Seals may be ſometimes indeed taken from him, and committed to ſuch a Keeper as the King ſhall make choice of, to ſeal Orders that are paſſed. Though he perfectly ſubmitted himſelf to the Kings will in all things, yet was the Seal given from him to the firſt Preſident *Monſieur Molet*, during the troubles of *Paris*, he being purſued

by the raſcally people to the *Hoſtel de Guynes*, whither he was forced to retreat, and in much danger even there of being forced out, had not the Marſhal *de la Milleray* come and reſcued him by force of arms. The fear and jealouſie he had of *Monſieur Fouquet* at *Fountainbleau*, made him follow the King every where: and he ſhewed himſelf as able and active as any young man in the Journey to *Britany*, becauſe he had heard, as it is reported, that the King ſhould ſay to *Monſieur Fouquet*, who importuned him to take the Seals from him, ſeeing his very great age diſabled him in the execution of that Office; *Do not trouble your ſelf; aſſoon as I return from Britany, I aſſure you the Seals ſhall be in your houſe*: which was true indeed, all things being ſealed there. *Monſieur Fou-*

quet making a favourable, though not a right construction of that promise, was satisfied therewith; and the Chancellor had a great apprehension, endeavouring by his close attendance to make it appear to his Majestie, that he had yet vigour enough left him to acquit himself of that trust. This is one of the causes of the enmity betwixt him and *Monsieur Fouquet.*

He cherishes his wealth above all the things in the world, and is sparing for nothing that may contribute to prolong his days, making frequent use of Cordials, and excellent nourishments, which have been so effectual, that he is in a perfect condition of health at the age of Fourscore years. He hath always a Guard with him when he goes abroad; which is rather for a mark of his dignity, then

then for fear of any hurt or danger. He presides in the Court of Justice; but *Monsieur Fouquet* hath put in many Heads of Recusation against him, by no means accepting or owning him for his Judge. He is prodigiously rich, and very œconomical; and having no male-issue, his Succession is devolved to his daughters husbands, the chief whereof is the Marquis *de Coaslin*.

THE Character or Pourtraict of *Monsieur Colbert.*

HE is the son of an eminent Citizen of *Rheims*: but those who are very well vers'd in Genealogies, affirm that he is descended from one of the most Illustrious Families of *Scotland*. He was first under *Monsieur Tellier* the Secretary of State; and when the Cardinal was exiled from the Court, and retired into *Germany*, having enquired of *Monsieur Tellier* for some person whom he might confide in, to intrust with some

ſome Jewels of a very great value, and certain ſums of money; *Monſieur Tellier* named *Monſieur Colbert* to him, as a very honeſt confiding man, whoſe fidelity he was well acquainted with; who having a houſe at *Rheims* juſt upon the Road betwixt *Paris* and *Cologne*, the Cardinal left in his keeping the moſt conſiderable treaſure he had, which he laid up for his laſt reſerve, and found this the moſt convenient place that could be to diſpoſe of it as occaſion might require. His Eminence lodged two nights at his houſe, and appointed him to receive and convey all his Letters of Correſpondence which he either diſpatched to, or received from the Court; which Commerce he was the fitter to drive, being then not generally known; of which he acquitted himſelf with ſo much

much exactneſs, integrity, and ſucceſs, that he deſerved to be intruſted with matters of more importance: and indeed, from that time he grew much in favour with the Cardinal, who being recalled into *France*, and happily reſetled at Court, deſired to have him from *Monſieur Tellier*, and made him Intendant of his houſe, which he governed till his death to the great liking of that grand Miniſter; inſomuch as the Cardinal upon his death-bed, and in his Will and Teſtament, whereof he was Executor, recommended him particularly to the King, intreating his Majeſtie to make uſe of him as a perſon of a tried Ability and Faith.

The King hath found him ſuch a one indeed, according to his own deſire, and the fitteſt man in the whole Nation to manage his Treaſury;

ſury; and therefore having ſet aſide *Monſieur Fouquet*, he gave the whole Adminiſtration and Management of it to this perſon, whom he hath likewiſe honoured with the Office of Chief Surveyor of his Buildings and Royal Houſes; and, which is more, does not ſeldom communicate the weightieſt affairs of State unto him.

He is indeclinably devoted to the will and ſervice of his Maſter. A perſon he is without any thing of vain-glory or boaſting, moderate in expences, who willingly ſacrifices all his pleaſures and divertiſements to the intereſt of his Country and affairs of importance. He is active and vigilant, conſtant and inviolable in any thing of his duty; avoiding all making of Parties and Cabals, not treating with any body without

out

out the Kings knowledge, or an expreſs Order from his Majeſtie. He ſeems not to thirſt after much riches for himſelf, but is hugely diligent and active in heaping up Treaſure for his Maſter, and preſerving the Revenues of the Crown; and being well verſed in ordering thoſe things, he gives the King his beſt advice to redeem that part of his Demeſnes which hath been long engaged, thereby filling his Coffers, and increaſing his daily Income. By theſe prudent means he hath already received many Millions, which were concealed, detained, and unjuſtly converted to other uſes; by ſuch as formerly had the management of the Treaſury; not fearing the ill will of any, to do his Maſter ſervice; relying wholly upon the juſtice and power of a Monarch able to protect him againſt all his adverſaries. It

It is reported, that he hath aſſured his Majeſtie that in three years time he will redeem and clear all his Demeſnes; which when accompliſhed, will make him the richeſt Potentate of Chriſtendom, which he is indeed already, in the reputation of all ſtranger-Nations.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF

Monſieur Tellier.

HE is deſcended of a Family of the Long Robe; and raiſed himſelf to the height he is now at, as much by his own diligence and conduct, as by the favour of the Cardinal *Richelieu*, who made him chief Maſter of Requeſts. He is of a friendly, diſcreet, and prudent temper, and one that underſtands Military affairs better then any man in the Kingdom; I mean, as to the manner how to keep up and maintain an

an Army, what the charge will amount to according to the numbers raiſed, and the like: which knowledge he hath acquired by a very long experience. He hath maintained himſelf unblameable in his Office, and was but feignedly diſgraced or ſet aſide during the Inteſtine Troubles. For the Prince complaining that the Cardinal, though baniſhed, ſtill ruled at Court by means of his Creatures, amongſt whom *Monſieur Tellier* & *Monſieur de Lionne* were counted the principal; the Queen, to take away all cauſe of jealouſie, cauſed them to be ſent out of *Paris*, and promiſed to admit no more of them to her Council: which Order within a month was again reverſed, and the policie of this Court-turn apparent. He is a perſon nothing tainted with the vanities of the times, having no am-

ambitious thoughts, but performing his duty meerly out of a principle of honour and honesty, not minding either concurrences nor enmities, not aiming at higher preferments or greater profits, being already in a condition, indeed, so good in these respects, that there is little left him to wish for.

He hath a son, the Marquis *de Louvais*, very much in favour with the King, to whom his Majestie has granted the reversion of his Fathers Office of Secretary of State for Military affairs.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict Of *Monsieur de Lionne.*

HE is of a Noble Family, and was formerly chief Secretary to the Queen-mother; and when she was Regent, he was employed in State-affairs; and the Cardinal, a while before his death, recommended him to his Majestie in particular, as a man fit for the employments he holds. He is one of the most prudent men in Europe; one that hath the most flegme, and reservednes of temper, as the Italians themselves confessed

feſſed when he was amongſt them; they endeavoured by all the ways imaginable to make him diſcover himſelf, but with all their ſubtilty they could not make themſelves Maſters of the leaſt of his ſecrets.

The Great Duke, and the whole Houſe of *Medices* treated him to that very end, and laid all the plots & ſnares they could; but all their diligence and cunning could not entice him to utter one ſillable but what was meerly indifferent. He went ſince joynt Ambaſſadour with the Marſhal *de Gramont* into *Germany*, at the Election of the Emperour: and we may truly ſay, that the two ſubtileſt and wiſeſt Politicians of *France* did then ſhare together in that Illuſtrious Negotiation. He is a perſon of much honeſty and conſcience, and one that will not

make

make use of any one that is not good and vertuous; though it were his misfortune a while since to have a person in his Family who was a Traytor both to him, the King, and the State: but this was a fellow taken in by his other servants, not of his chusing: and having found that his Secrets were divulged to Forraign Ambassadours by his infidelity, he caused him to be chastised according to his deserts, having made him confess that he had never spoken so much as one word to him. He is a lover of Vertue and Arts; is milde, affable, of a good presence, and exactly faithful in the Kings concerns: and though he be Secretary of State for all Forraign affairs, which he understands incomparably well, yet in the Cardinals Will he is preferred before all others to inform the King of

all the concerns of *Lorraine*, and whatever is to be transacted with the Duke *Charles*, who is one of the subtilleſt and wary Princes of this Age; of whom the Duke ſaid, *that he was a fit man to be treated with, but it muſt be onely for three days*. Which words he taking hold of, did indeed finiſh his Negotiation within that ſpace of time, as is apparent by the Treaty mutually ſigned to by each of them.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF

Monſieur Foucquet.

HE is the ſon of a Citizen, and pretends the original of his Family is Noble. He roſe to his Fortune by his Brother the Abbot *Foucquet's* means, who was much in favor with Cardinal *Mazarine*. He borrowed a ſum of money to buy the Office of Attorney-General, and in that quality did the Cardinal many good Offices in the Parliament, and the Government of *Paris*. He was very exact in proſecuting any that wrote

againſt that Miniſter. Yet all theſe Services could not exempt him from being ſuſpected; which obliged him to draw up that Project, found amongſt his rifled Papers, to defend himſelf in caſe he were attaqu'd. The Cardinals favour procured him the employment of Superintendant, which he managed alone after the deceaſe of *Monſieur Servien*, who during a time ſhared it with him. He hath a vaſt and lofty ſpirit, and was the profuſeſt and moſt magnificent man in the Kingdom. His ambitious minde made him chuſe this Motto for his Deviſe:

Quo non aſcendam?
Whither ſhall I not climb?

And it is believed his thoughts aſpired at being Chief Miniſter: but the King by no means enduring to have any Subject raiſe himſelf

ſelf to that Authority in his Reign, reſerving that power moſt juſtly for himſelf, cauſed him to be arreſted ſome years ſince in his journey to *Brittany*, and ſent him to *Vincennes*, and from thence to the *Baſtille*. He was liberal with profuſion, being accuſed of having ſquandred away infinite ſums of money upon his Pleaſures and Miſtreſſes. He is likewiſe accuſed of allowing ſeveral large Penſions to the Grandees at Court, to be his creatures; it being his Opinion and Maxime, that no mans Faith could be of proof againſt Fifty thouſand Crowns. His Buildings do alſo ſhew his exceſſive Prodigality, together with the Furniture, Conches, Attendance, Rarities, and unparallel'd Banquets; as for example, the Collation he gave his Majeſtie at *Veau de Vicomte*,

where he expended Fourty thousand Crowns, by all computation. He bestowed great Largesses likewise upon the Jesuites, *viz.* a Library, a Thousand livres of annual Rent to maintain it, and Fourscore thousand livres for a Building within their Colledge.

THE

THE Character or Pourtraict Of The First President of PARLIAMENT.

MOnsieur *de la Mignon* (issued from a Family of the Long Robe) enjoys this considerable Office, which is onely attained unto by Merit and Ability; it being never sold, no more then the Chancellors place, as being not to be valued at its worth. He represents the Kings person in Parliament, and acknowledges no Superiour to him in the whole King-

Kingdom for Judicial matters, being Head of a Soveraign Court. He was a Fellow-Preſident long before he arrived to this chief dignity. He is eloquent without affectation, learned without ambition, and one of the wiſeſt heads of the Nation. He is an enemy to the *Janſeniſts*, and all other Novelties; being ſo much wedded to ancient Cuſtoms, that he will not admit of any alteration either in Church, or Maxims of State or Law. He adheres moſt ſtrictly to the Royal Authority, and receives all Orders from his Majeſtie with a great deal of veneration, and zeal to put them in execution. They ſay he is very much Jeſuited, becauſe he is of their opinion concerning the Doctrine of the Times: nevertheleſs he ſhews a very even temper in all his actions, not refuſing

to

to hear any of the contrary party; judging with equity and conſcience, and doing juſtice where it is requiſite. He is a perſon of an excellent good nature, very charitable, loving peace and quietneſs as well in State as Church. So that it may be truly ſaid of him, that he is the common Father to his Country, on whom he beſtows all his Cares and Labours, in rendering every one what is his due; being juſt and merciful to the good, and a puniſher of the wicked; which are the chief and onely Pillars of a State. So that the King hath reaſon to rely upon him for that part of his Government, which he adminiſters with an unbyaſſed integrity.

CHAP.

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF THE

The Duke of *S. Agnan.*

HE hath ſignalized himſelf in divers encounters for his Majeſties ſervice, and verified it in his own perſon, That true Gallantry does not debaſe a Couragious heart. The height of his Valour and Skill was manifeſted in an odde Adventure, which might have proved his utter ruine, and the loſs of many a brave Courtier. Three men mounted to the beſt advantage, and having Vizards on, lay in Ambuſcado neer

neer one of his Country-houſes, to ſurprize him unawares and alone, intending to murther him, as they had done infallibly, if his great courage and reſolution had not carried him off that evident peril. The Story of it is ſo well known, that I thought it needleſs to inſert it here at length.

He is the moſt obliging Gentleman in the world, from whom, I never heard any one ſay that he came diſſatisfied. No man loves Learning, or perſons of ingenuity, more then himſelf: and ſo well verſed he is, that ſeverab very handſom Things have been compoſed by him; amongſt the which is a Comedy of his faſhion, made to divert the Court; and the Kings voyage to *Bretagne*; written in French in one nights time, at his Majeſties command. He is highly cheriſhed by the King

for

for his gallant wit, and generous inclinations. It is very fit, that ſo brave a man ſhould be in favour with ſo great a Monarch, whom he cannot but inſpire with noble and good Sentiments: for all he either ſaith or does is honeſt and worthy. Formerly the Titles of Minions and Favourites were given to ſuch perſons: at preſent, that of Confident is more in vogue. But this Duke has no other quality, then what *Epheſtion* had from *Alexander*; and it may be truly ſaid, that he entirely loves the perſon of the King, to whom he is a faithful Guardian, and a moſt zealous ſervant. He ſpeaks very well and gracefully; hath a wonderful preſence, and an unparallel'd ſweetneſs in converſation; ſo that he may very properly be eſteemed as a Model of a compleat Courtier, and a very honeſt Gentleman. THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

Of

The Duke of *Crequi.*

THis Lord was ſon of a Mar-ſhal of *France*, and is the chief Gentleman of the Kings Bedchamber; one of the hand-ſomeſt, haughtieſt, and braveſt men of the whole Court. He is frank and liberal, and keeps up the Character of his ancient Nobility. He neither is acquainted with diſſimulation, intrigues, or deſignes, but goes roundly to work, and maintains the Kings intereſt with heat, not fearing any thing

thing can be opposed. He is fitter for the Camp then the Cabinet or Council, being as it were born to that Noble Exercise. Nevertheless he was sent upon an extraordinary Embassie to *Rome*, to congratulate the Popes new Election, and complement him in his Masters behalf; which was onely an act of Civility, the King not being at all obliged, like some other Princes, to pay this respect to the Holy Chair, but onely of his free-will; so that the Romanes and their Governours did hugely mistake themselves, in forfeiting that respect due to the dignity of *Monsieur de Crequi*, and violating the right of Princes in his person, and the person of Madam the Ambassadrice. It must be noted here, that all Ambassadours wives in *Italy* take the same Title and Qua-

Quality as their Husbands, and as ſuch, take place accordingly in all Aſſemblies. But the Conteſt being fully compoſed, and ſatisfaction given by the Legate from his Holineſs, that troubleſom Quarrel is now brought to a period.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF

The Duke of *Novailles.*

HIs Extraction is Illuſtrious, and of the ancient Nobility: the whole Family have ever been remarkable for their Fidelity, and conſtant Adherence to their Kings Intereſt. He is one of the four Captains of his Majeſties Life-guards, and moſt commonly hath the ſole Command in the *Louvre*, attending his Maſters perſon where-ever he is pleaſed to go; always riding in the Boot of the Kings Coach with the Baton in his hand.

hand. He commands the Scotch Company under the White Colours. And although he is one of the most daring Souldiers in the Nation, and as valiant as any of these times; yet no man is endued with more Meekness or Modesty then he is. He executes his employment with so much satisfaction and content to all the world, that he is beloved and esteemed by the whole Court: his very denials having so little of harshness in them, that people seldom go away discontented, though they lose their Errand they came for. And so fair and obliging his nature is, that where-ever he can do a good office, it is performed so freely and nobly, either to friends, or even strangers themselves, that he lays a double tye of gratitude upon them, arising as much from the manner, as the thing it self.

There is not a Noble-man in the Court that does not covet his friendſhip, nor any man ſo indifferent as not to pay him a high reſpect. Nor is any man, though nere ſo great a ſtranger, denied acceſs to his preſence, if they addreſs themſelves but with civility to him. And yet is he ſevere enough upon any occaſion of conteſt, and will not ſuffer the leaſt diſorder either in the Kings family, or any place where his Command extends. He ſpeaks little, but very well to the purpoſe, and with a very great deal of ſolid Reaſon and Judgement.

THE

THE

Character or Pourtraict

OF

The Duke of *Mazarine*,

AND

de la Milleraye.

HE is the ſon of the Marſhal *de la Milleraye*, Great Maſter of the Ordnance; wherein he ſucceeds him, as well as in the Government of *Bretagne*, in quality of Lieutenant-General to the Queen-mother. He is a very vertuous Gentleman, a pious man: and it is ſaid, that in his younger

younger days he had a desire of becoming a Religious Frier. Cardinal *Mazarine* looked upon him as the man to whom he intended to leave his great Wealth, his Name, and his Arms; upon which condition he married his Neece. So that he is very rich on all sides, and very potent; having besides this, the Principality of *Elsse*, and the favour of the King, which is an advantage above all those before mentioned. He is very stayd, speaks little, and does every thing with a great deal of moderation: and though he is at this instant one of the greatest and powerfullest Subjects in the world, yet is no whit the prouder, nor of a more difficult access. He receives every body with a great deal of frankness and civility, and dispatches the Kings affairs with all the conduct and exactness imaginable. He

He treated with the Princes of the *Rhyne* about many things of high importance, and hath gained a great deal of Credit and Reputation by his Moderation, having refuſed the Title of *His Highneſs*, which they would needs have given him, in conſideration of the Principality of *Elſas*. His late Buſineſs was, to cauſe the French Troops to paſs over a River on a Bridge of Boats, in the March towards the Emperours Relief againſt the Grand Seignor.

FINIS.